

EHR INCENTIVE PROGRAM

PROGRAM UPDATE



December 18, 2013

The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (Department) continues to accept attestations for the Colorado Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. In Program Year 2012, more than \$62 million in incentive payments were made to eligible health care professionals and hospitals for the adoption, implementation or upgrade (AIU) and Meaningful Use (MU) of certified EHR technology and payments for Program Year 2013 already total more than \$8 million.

Eligible Professional Deadline for Program Year 2013

December 31, 2013 is the last day of the EHR Reporting Period for the 2013 Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. Eligible Professionals (EPs) should note that **February 28, 2014** is the deadline to attest to Adopting, Implementing and Upgrading (AIU) your Electronic Health Records (EHR) or to Meaningful Use (MU) of your EHR in the Colorado Registration & Attestation System.

For resources on attesting to Meaningful Use in 2013, please visit http://www.corhio.org/ehrs-meaningful-use.aspx.

Remember to Check for Webinars and Recorded Events for Assistance in Attesting to and Achieving Meaningful Use

With 2014 right around the corner, CORHIO has added another webinar to its selection of recorded events all targeted at helping you successfully attest to Meaningful Use. Stage 2 Meaningful Use officially starts on January 1, 2014 for Eligible Professionals, but many EPs in Colorado will still be attesting to Stage 1 Meaningful Use in 2014.

Colorado's Medicaid EHR Incentive Program started accepting Meaningful Use attestations in Program Year 2013, so our EPs will be in their second year of Stage 1, but it's never too early to start preparing for Stage 2. This webinar outlines the changes coming to all EPs attesting to Stage 1 Meaningful Use in 2014 and goes into detail on some of the largest objectives in Stage 2. It also addresses important deadlines for Payment Adjustments in 2015.

To view the webinar or download the slides, click here.

Proposed Delay to Stage 3 Meaningful Use Announced

On Friday, December 6th, CMS announced a proposed delay to Stage 3 Meaningful Use. Under the new timeline, Stage 2 would still start in 2014 but be extended through 2016 with the start of Stage 3 in 2017. This would give hospitals and providers more time to successfully implement and use the enhanced patient engagement, interoperability and health information exchange requirements in Stage 2.



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For EPs in Colorado that started with AIU in 2012, this delay will not affect you as you would not be scheduled to start Stage 3 until the 2017 program year as illustrated below:

1 st Year	Medicaid EHR Incentive Payment Program for Colorado Eligible Professionals (EPs) Usual Paths Through AIU/MU Stages ¹ if AIU was Year 1									
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 ³
2012	AIU	1	1	2	2	3	3			
2013		AIU	1	1	2	2	3	3		
2014			AIU	1	1	2	2	3	3	
2015				AIU	1	1	2	2	3	3
2016 ²					AIU	1	1	2	2	3
	1. Medicaid EPs may receive payments on a non-consecutive annual basis.									
	2. The last year EPs may start is 2016.									
	3. The last year for Medicaid EHR Incentive payments is 2021.									

You can read more about the delay in the CMS announcement.

Necessary Documentation for Attesting

Whether you are attesting to AIU or MU, the number of attachments and additional information required to complete an attestation can be overwhelming and very easy to overlook. CORHIO has created a <u>checklist</u> that can be downloaded to help remind you of the required documents. Some of the most common mistakes and the best way to correct them include:

- Make sure the <u>Eligibility Workbook</u> is filled out completely, including the About You tab, and only fill out the tabs that pertain to your provider/practice. If you are not a managed care organization, skip the Panels tab. If you are not a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or a Rural Health Clinic (RHC), skip the FQHC and RHC tabs.
- Whether you are attesting to AIU or to MU, proof of a Certified EHR has to be uploaded each year. Make sure
 you are uploading a copy of the contract/license agreement that is fully executed by both parties and make sure
 you are uploading an invoice. The invoice does not need to be in full and can include installments, but proof of
 payment is required.
- The <u>Eligibility Verification Workbook</u> (or De-identified List) is used to verify all of the eligible encounters and must be filled out fully. Make sure that all Medicaid IDs are included that you used to calculate your encounter volume this could include the rendering provider or the supervising provider, too. In addition, make sure that you are only including encounters that were billed/filed with Medicaid. These encounters can include zero-pay encounters, but if they were not filed with Medicaid, they cannot be verified.



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• When you are attesting to MU, make sure that the MU Summary Report(s) that are uploaded include all of the Core and Menu objectives along with all of the Clinical Quality Measures (CQMs) that you have chosen. If your certified EHR does not report on any Yes/No Objectives, obtain a letter from your vendor explaining that, although the functionality is enabled, the report from their product does not include Yes/No Objectives. This will help eliminate any confusion during the attestation review.

If you have any questions about your attestation or about the reason why your attestation may have been placed on hold once submitted, you may always send your questions to MedicaidEHR@corhio.org.

Updated Anticipated Timeline - Colorado Medicaid EHR Incentive Program

Event	Status/Expected Date
CO R&A System begins accepting Medicaid & Medicare	Now Open!
Meaningful Use attestations	
CO R&A System opens for EHs to attest to Meaningful	Now Open!
Use for FFY 2013	
CO R&A System opens for EPs to attest to Meaningful	Now Open!
Use for calendar year 2013	
First incentive payments issued to EPs who successfully	Paid!
attested to Medicaid Stage 1 Meaningful Use	

Medicaid Program Point of Contact and Partnerships

The Department partners with CORHIO to provide program coordination and assist with provider communications and outreach regarding the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Coordinator is the central point of contact for EPs, EHs, partners and other interested parties on requirements, processes and questions regarding the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. The Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Coordinator, Tracy McDonald, can be reached at MedicaidEHR@corhio.org or 720.285.3232.

Xerox (formerly Affiliated Computer Services) has been contracted by the Department to manage the Provider Outreach Page and to provide the Colorado R&A System, including the web portal through which eligible providers can register and attest to receive the EHR incentive payments.